

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action mailed August 24, 2006 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-2, 5 and 8-19 are pending in this application, with claims 1 and 14 being the only independent claims. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Independent claim 1 is amended to incorporate the limitations of dependent claim 3 and dependent claim 7. Support for this limitation is found in Figs. 1 and 2, and paragraph 0019. The recitation of the drive pinion is removed from independent claim 1 and rewritten as new dependent claim 13.

Dependent claim 8 is amended to depend from independent claim 1.

Dependent claims 10-12, which further limitation the drive pinion limitations, are amended to depend from new claim 13.

New independent claim 14 includes the folding drum and folding blade shaft limitations similar to independent claim 1, and recites a carrier supporting the folding-blade shaft. Support for this limitation is found in paragraph 0019 of the specification and Fig. 1.

New dependent claims 15 recites that the drum wall has a projection extending radially inward and said carrier is connected to the projection. Support for this limitation is found in Fig. 1.

New dependent claim 16 recites that the carrier is connected to said projection using threaded connectors. Support for this is found in paragraph 0019.

New dependent claim 17 recites limitations regarding the bearings in the side walls and the further bearing that were recited in original claim 1.

New dependent claim 18 recites that the pair of bearings and the at least one further pair of bearings comprise self-aligning roller bearings. This was recited in original dependent claim 3.

New dependent claim 19 recites that the carrier is made of sheet metal blank. Support for this limitation is found at paragraph 0019 of the specification.

Claims 3, 4, and 7 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Rejection of Claims

Claims 1-2 and 7-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 3,020,042 (Worthington) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,118,214 (Petrzelka).

Claim 3 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Worthington and Petrzelka in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,811,688 (Turner).

Claims 4-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Worthington and Petrzelka in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,527,029 (Ryser).

Independent claim 1 recites “a folding drum comprising two opposing side walls and a carrier connected to the folding drum at a location between said side walls, said wherein said carrier has a small material thickness in a longitudinal direction of said folding device and a large area extending approximately over the entire cross section of an interior of said folding drum in a transverse direction of said folding device”. Worthington fails to disclose this because Worthington discloses only brackets 6 and 7. The central brackets shown in Fig. 1 are not described in detail. Fig. 2 shows the outline of bracket 7 which does not extend approximately over the entire cross section of an interior of the folding drum of Worthington.

Furthermore, independent claim 1 recites “wherein said pair of bearings and said at least one further pair of bearings comprise self-aligning roller bearings”. The Examiner

acknowledges that this limitation is not shown by the combined teachings of Worthington and Petrzelka. However, the Examiner alleges that the teachings of Turner combined with the teachings of Worthington and Petrzelka suggest this limitation. The Examiner specifically refers to roller 30, Fig. 1 of Turner. Col. 2, lines 49-51 of Turner discloses that the rollers 30 are guide rollers which extend across the width of the web being guided and are supported by self-aligning roller bearings to reduce friction. Thus the rollers 30 are not shafts within a fold drum. There is no teaching or suggestion for using three self-aligning bearings as recited in independent claim 1. Accordingly, independent claim 1 is allowable over Worthington, Petrzelka, and Turner.

Independent claim 14 recites “a carrier connected to said drum wall, said carrier extending transverse to said longitudinal axis and rotatably supporting said folding-blade shaft at a location between said side walls”. Worthington fails to disclose this because the center supports are arranged on a shaft 5 and because Worthington fails to disclose that the brackets do not extend approximately over the entire cross section of an interior of the folding drum, as described above. Petrzelka also fails to teach this limitation because Petrzelka shows only the journal connected to a cylinder.

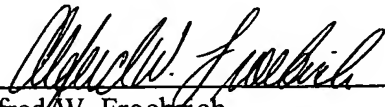
Dependent claims 2, 5, 8-13, and 15-18, are each allowable for at least the same reasons as are independent claims 1 and 14, as well as for the additional recitations contained therein.

The application is now deemed to be in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is solicited.

It is believed that no fees or charges are required at this time in connection with the present application. However, if any fees or charges are required at this time, they may be charged to our Patent and Trademark Office Deposit Account No. 03-2412.

Respectfully submitted,
COHEN, PONTANI, LIEBERMAN & PAVANE LLP

By


Alfred W. Froeblich
Reg. No. 38,887
551 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1210
New York, New York 10176
(212) 687-2770

Dated: November 22, 2006